and mortgage of vessel to a Foreign Company for purchase of vessels etc.

Cleaning of Visakhapatnam port

2589. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that Visakhapatnam port is facing severe pollution problem with sulpher and iron dust content; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No Sir. There is no severe pollution in Visakhapatnam Port.

(b) Does not arise.

Suspension of Punjab Roadways Employees

2590. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale arbitrary suspension of employees in Punjab Roadways during the last two years ;

(b) if so, what is the number thereof and whether these suspension are made by such General Managers, who are themselves facing a number of corruption charges and have faced suspensions in the past; and

(c) the details of the such corrupt general managers and the steps Government propose to take to avoid exploitation and harassment of innocent lower staff consisting of drivers and conductors at the hands of such corrupt officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Action against officers of Punjab roadways

2591. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a recruitment scandal was busted in Punjab Roadways, Moga in 1986 and Government had considered the case for departmental action against the officers involved in the scandal;

(b) whether the matter was later dropped vide orders dated the 26th April, 1988 and the culprits instead of punishment were given promotions ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed in this regard ;

(d) whether the persons involved in the said recruitment scandal have now been found involved in a sensational diesel scandal at Punjab Roadways, office at Nangal; and

(e) if so, the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों का विकास

2592. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव** : क्या **जल-भूतल परिवहन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1990-91 के दौरान पोत परिवहन के लिए राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों को तीन खण्डों में विकसित किए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में अब तक किए गए प्रयासों का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) इसके परिणामस्वरूप लोगों को कौन-कौन सी सुविधायें उपलब्ध होंगी ।

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर) : (क) और (ख) इस समय दो राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग हैं। वर्ष 1990-91 के दौरान राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग (गंगा-भागीरथी-हुगली के इलाहाबाद हल्दिया खंड) पर 1.5 मीटर गहरी और 45 मीटर चौड़ी सतत् नौचालन नहर सुलभ कराने के लिए हल्दिया और बलिया के बीच नाजुक स्थलों पर बन्धालिंग और निकर्षण कार्य किए गए । राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग (ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के सैदिया-धुबरी खंड) पर 2.25 मीटर गहरी और 45 मीटर चौड़ी सतत नौचालन नहर सुलभ कराने के लिए धुबरी और कमारी के बीच नाजुक